

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 MCT-01 DOE-15
SOE-02 OMB-01 IO-13 /102 W
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O R 081903Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6314
INFO EC COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 2343

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY; CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY
E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, CSCE, XF, XJ, PINS, EEC, DA
SUBJECT: US-EC DIALOGUE: EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING, COPENHAGEN
APRIL 7-8: POLITICAL COOPERATION
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REF: A. COPENHAGEN 2332 B. COPENHAGEN 2223

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER DANISH PRIME MINISTER ANKER JORGENSEN'S 1430
HOURS PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH CONCLUDED THE APRIL 7-8 EUROPEAN
COUNCIL MEETING IN COPENHAGEN, THE TOP-LEVEL OF THE DANISH FOREIGN
MINISTRY BRIEFED US ON THE POLITICAL COOPERATION ITEMS DISCUSSED.

BECAUSE OF THE OVERWHELMING EMPHASIS AT THE SUMMIT ON ECONOMIC AND UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS, THE POLITICAL SIDE OF THE AGENDA WAS QUITE LIGHT. BASED ON DRAFT PAPERS PREPARED BY THE DANISH PRESIDENCY FOREIGN MINISTERS DISCUSSED THE POLITICAL ITEMS LATE IN THE AFTER-NOON AND THE EARLY EVENING APRIL 7, ENDING WITH THEIR DINNER AT 2000 HOURS AT CHRISTIANSBORG, WHILE THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING MET AND DINED SEPARATELY AT MARIENBORG.

2. THE RESULTS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS' DISCUSSION WERE PRESENTED BY DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER K.B. ANDERSEN TO THE COUNCIL THIS MORNING APRIL 8. HIS PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION BY THE COUNCIL OF THESE POLITICAL ITEMS TOOK ABOUT ONE-HALF AN HOUR.

3. FOUR POLITICAL COOPERATION SUBJECTS WERE ADDRESSED:

- EAST-WEST RELATIONS CONSIDERED PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF BELGRADE;
- THE MIDDLE EAST;
- AFRICA (NAMIBIA, RHODESIA AND THE HORN);
- TERRORISM.

4. EAST - WEST (POST-BELGRADE)

DANISH POLITICAL DIRECTOR OLE BIERRING, WHO CONDUCTED MOST OF THE POLITICAL BRIEFING, RECALLED THAT WORKING LEVEL GROUPS OF THE NINE ARE CONTINUING THEIR STUDIES AND ANALYSES OF BELGRADE AND THEIR INITIAL ESTIMATE OF MADRID. THE NINE AGREED THAT IT WAS TOO EARLY TO REACH A CONCLUSIVE JUDGMENT ON BELGRADE. THEY BELIEVED THAT THE RESULTS WERE "NOT AS BAD AS PORTRAYED IN THE PRESS." THEY STRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE DETENTE PROCESS IS INFLUENCED STRONGLY BY EVENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD. (BIERRING SAID THAT THIS REFERENCE WAS MEANT TO INCLUDE THE RUSSO-CUBAN INTERVENTION IN THE HORN.)

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5. THE NINE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING THE CSCE CONSULTATIONS AND NOTED WITH APPROVAL THE AGREEMENT AT BELGRADE TO MEET AGAIN IN MADRID IN 1980. THERE WAS SOME FEELING AMONG THE NINE THAT THE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION AT MADRID SHOULD BE HIGHER (I.E. FOREIGN MINISTERS) THAN WAS THE CASE AT BELGRADE BUT THERE WAS NO CONSENSUS. THE COUNCIL WAS OF THE OPINION THAT CLOSER CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE ALLIES THAN THOSE WHICH OCCURRED PRE-BELGRADE WERE REQUIRED BEFORE MADRID. THE NINE ALSO WANT TO WORK MORE CLOSELY WITH THE NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED (NNA) WHOSE COOPERATION AND CONTACTS WERE HIGHLY VALUED AT BELGRADE. BIERRING SAID PRIVATELY AFTER THE FORMAL MEETING THAT UNLIKE THE NINE'S CSCE EXPERT GROUP WHICH MET HERE APRIL 3-4, NO EXPRESSION WAS VOICED AT THE FOREIGN MINISTER OR HEADS OF GOVERNMENT LEVEL OF A NEED TO CONCENTRATE ON ONLY CERTAIN OF THE NNAs (REF B).

6. MIDDLE EAST

AS GENERALLY FORECAST, THE NINE ISSUED NO NEW DECLARATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST ALTHOUGH PRIME MINISTER ANKER JORGENSEN DID MENTION THE NINE'S DISCUSSION OF THE AREA IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE (SEPTEL). OUR BRIEFERS EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE THAT THE NINE ATTACHED TO THE FACT THAT NOW NEW DECLARATION WAS MADE.

7. IN FACT, SAID, BIERRING, THERE WAS LITTLE REAL DISCUSSION.

DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER K.B. ANDERSEN GAVE A SHORT RUNDOWN OF THE

PRESENT SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND RECEIVED COUNCIL APPROVAL FOR THE LANGUAGE OF JORGENSEN'S PRESS STATEMENT. THE DANISH AMBASSADOR IN CAIRO WILL PASS TO THE EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER THE TEXT OF THIS LANGUAGE AS A "NON-PAPER." BIERRING POINTED UP THE IMPORTANT PARTS OF THE STATEMENT AS:

(A) REITERATION OF THE SUPPORT OF THE NINE FOR UNSC RESOLUTIONS 425 AND 426 AND THEIR URGING OF ALL PARTIES TO COOPERATE WITH THE UN FORCE IN LEBANON.

(B) THE NEED TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM IN THE PEACE PROCESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST;

(C) THE APPLICATION OF UNSC RESOLUTION 242 "IN ALL ITS PARTS AND ON ALL FRONTS";

(D) THE CONTINUING VALIDITY OF THE NINE'S DECLARATION OF JUNE 29, 1977.

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8. NAMIBIA

THE FOLLOWING IS THE VERBATIM FORMAL DECLARATION ON NAMIBIA: "THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL HAS TAKEN NOTE OF THE PROPOSAL FOR A SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA PREPARED BY THE FIVE POWERS. THE COUNCIL SUPPORTS THE ACTION OF THE FIVE AND CONSIDERS THE PROPOSAL TO BE A FAIR AND REASONABLE SETTLEMENT. IT HOPES THAT ALL THE PARTIES INVOLVED WILL FEEL ABLE TO ACCEPT THIS IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR A NEGOTIATED PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 385."

9. RHODESIA

BIERRING SAID THAT BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER OWEN GAVE A FIRST-CLASS BRIEFING ON LATEST DEVELOPMENTS. THE NINE CONSIDERED THAT THE "INTERNAL SOLUTION" IN SALISBURY WAS "INSUFFICIENT." THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN STILL REMAINS THE BEST BASIS FOR AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION. ALL PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT SHOULD BE BROUGHT TOGETHER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID A DANGEROUS ESCALATION OF THE CONFLICT.

10. THE HORN

THE NINE REGARD THE SITUATION IN THE HORN WITH CONCERN. THEY SUPPORT THE OAU'S MEDIATION AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT ITS COMING MEETING IN LAGOS WILL ADVANCE A PEACEFUL SOLUTION.

11. TERRORISM

SEPTTEL REPORTS THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE NINE ON TERRORISM.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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